

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Droege

Serial No. 09/683,376

Filed: December 19, 2001

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR OPERATING A SYSTEM Art Unit: 3641

Examiner: Not Assigned

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I dertify that this foormespondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to,,, Commissioner for Patants, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

Michael Teraillo, Reg. No. 42,180

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

1. [/] Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(b)
[within 3 months of filing or prior to 1st Office Action]

Certification Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c)
[before Final Office Action or Allowance]

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- 3. [] Fee Payment Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(c) [before Final Office Action or Allowance]
- 4. [] Petition, Certification & Petition Fee Payment Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97 (d) [before Issue Fee payment]

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Hon. Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following are submitted in the above identified application in compliance with 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98:

5. A list of documents on form PTO-1449 together with copies of each identified document and a translation or a concise explanation of each non-English language document is enclosed herewith.

| This I | aper is si | ubmitted i | in accordance with: |
|--------|----------------|-------------|--|
| 6. | | | 37 CFR 1.97(b): [within 3 months of filing or prior to 1st Office Action |
| 7. | | | 37 CFR 1.97(c): [before Final Office Action or Allowance, whichever is earlier]; and |
| | | | 8 The required certification made in item 11 below; or |
| | | | 9. The \$180 fee specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) for submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is authorized in item 14 below. |
| 10. | | _ | 37 CFR 1.97(d): [before issue fee payment]; and |
| · | · - | | a) This is a petition for consideration of the subject Information Disclosure Statement. The petition fee (\$130.00) required by 37 CFR 1.17(i)(1) is authorized in item 14 below. (Direct this letter to: "Attention GROUP DIRECTOR Group," and if applicable include batch locator information: e.g., "Allowed Files, Batch, Date of Allowance"), and |
| | _ | | b) The required Certification is stated in item 11 below. |
| 11. | _ | Certific | cation |
| | 12. | | Each item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement; or |
| | 13. | | No item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing this document after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Statement. |
| 14. | | ✓. | Please charge all applicable fees associated with the submittal of this Information |

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Respectfully submitted,

document is enclosed.

Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 01-2384. An original and two copies of this

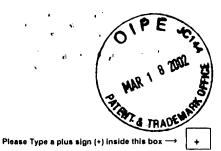
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Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449A/PTO **Application Number** 09/683,376 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Filing Date December 19, 2001 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT First Named Inventor Droege Group Art Unit 3641 (use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** Not Assigned Sheet of 1 24-NS-6049 1 Attorney Docket Number

| | | | | U.S. PATENT DOCUMEN | TS | |
|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.1 | U.S. Patent Doc | cument | Name of Patentee or Applicant Of Cited Document | Date of Publication of | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | |
| | AA | 3,855,536 | | Neuner | 12/17/74 | |
| | AB | 6,292,523 B1 | | Senechal et al. | 9/18/01 | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|---|--------------|
| Examiner | Cite No.1 | Foreign Patent Document | | | N(D-1 | Date of Publication of | Barrier Manager | T |
| Initials* | | Office ³ | Number⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T⁵ |
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| Examiner Signature | Date Considered: |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See Attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WSIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must preceded the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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